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Serial No. 09/613,085
Docket No. STL920000069US1
Firm No. 0054.0034

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for use in a computer system for translating a source character string in a first character encoding into a target character string in a second character encoding, said article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable storage medium having a computer program embodied in said medium which causes the computer system to perform operations comprising:

maintaining a plurality of specifications, wherein each specification has one of a plurality of scopes, and wherein each specification identifies at least one code page providing a mapping for source character strings in the first character encoding, and the scopes specify different portions of the program to which the code page identified by the specification applies;

processing [[a]] the source character string for which translation is requested in the program;

determining one specification having one scope that is applicable to the processed source character string; and

using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string in the first character encoding into the target character string in the second character encoding.

2. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein a global scope specifies that the code page applies to an entirety of the computer program.

3. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein a local scope specifies that the code page applies to a subsequent portion of the computer program.

4. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein a constant specific scope specifies that the code page applies only to a specific constant.

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5. (Currently Amended) A method of translating a source character string in a first character encoding stored into a target character string in a second character encoding stored in the memory of the computer, comprising:

maintaining a plurality of specifications, wherein each specification has one of a plurality of scopes, wherein each specification identifies at least one code page providing a mapping for source character strings in the first character encoding and the scopes specify different portions of the program to which the code page applies;

processing [[a]] the source character string for which translation is requested in the program;

determining one specification having one scope that is applicable to the processed source character string; and

using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string in the first character encoding into [[a]] the target character string in the second character encoding.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein a global scope specifies that the code page applies to an entirety of the computer program.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein a local scope specifies that the code page applies to a subsequent portion of the computer program.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein a constant specific scope specifies that the code page applies only to a specific constant.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer system for translating a source character string in a first character encoding into a target character string in a second character encoding, comprising:

a plurality of specifications, wherein each specification has one of a plurality of scopes, wherein each specification identifies at least one code page providing a mapping for source

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character strings in the first character encoding and the scopes specify different portions of the program to which the code page applies;

a storage medium having code executed by the computer system to perform operations, the operations comprising:

processing [[a]] the source character string for which translation is requested in the program;

determining one specification having one scope that is applicable to the processed source character string;

using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string in the first character encoding into [[a]] the target character string in the second character encoding.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein a global scope specifies that the code page applies to an entirety of the computer program.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein a local scope specifies that the code page applies to a subsequent portion of the computer program.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein a constant specific scope specifies that the code page applies only to a specific constant.

13. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein the first character encoding comprises a non-Unicode encoding and wherein the second character encoding comprises Unicode.

14. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein a global scope specifies that a code page applies to the entire computer program, wherein a local scope specifies that a code page applies to a subsequent portion of the computer program following a program statement specifying the local scope, and wherein a constant specific scope specifies that a code page applies to a specific constant, wherein the determined specification comprises

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the specification having the constant specific scope when specifications of a global or local scope and the constant specific scope are applicable to the processed source character string, and wherein the determined specification comprises the specification having the local scope when specifications of a global and local scopes are applicable to the processed source character string.

15. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 1, wherein using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string into the target character string comprises:

using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string into a value;

determining a mapping table associated with the code page identified by the determined specification; and

using the determined mapping table to map the value to the target character string.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the first character encoding comprises a non-Unicode encoding and wherein the second character encoding comprises Unicode.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein a global scope specifies that a code page applies to the entire computer program, wherein a local scope specifies that a code page applies to a subsequent portion of the computer program following a program statement specifying the local scope, and wherein a constant specific scope specifies that a code page applies to a specific constant, wherein the determined specification comprises the specification having the constant specific scope when specifications of a global or local scope and the constant specific scope are applicable to the processed source character string, and wherein the determined specification comprises the specification having the local scope when specifications of a global and local scopes are applicable to the processed source character string.

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18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string into the target character string comprises:

using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string into a value;

determining a mapping table associated with the code page identified by the determined specification; and

using the determined mapping table to map the value to the target character string.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the first character encoding comprises a non-Unicode encoding and wherein the second character encoding comprises Unicode.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein a global scope specifies that a code page applies to the entire computer program, wherein a local scope specifies that a code page applies to a subsequent portion of the computer program following a program statement specifying the local scope, and wherein a constant specific scope specifies that a code page applies to a specific constant, wherein the determined specification comprises the specification having the constant specific scope when specifications of a global or local scope and the constant specific scope are applicable to the processed source character string, and wherein the determined specification comprises the specification having the local scope when specifications of a global and local scopes are applicable to the processed source character string.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string into the target character string comprises:

using the code page identified by the determined specification to translate the processed source character string into a value;

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determining a mapping table associated with the code page identified by the determined specification; and

using the determined mapping table to map the value to the target character string.